

## **HARDSCAPE WALLS**

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### GUIDANCE FOR HARDSCAPE WALLS:

Stone walls are common throughout the districts. In addition to dividing adjacent properties, they often act as borders defining street edges. In this capacity, they serve a critical role in creating the street which has a historic appearance that should be preserved. To this end, any modifications to walls, particularly those along streets and ways, should be avoided or designed to minimize erosion of the street edge.

Walls in Marblehead's historic districts were generally drystone (dumped or tossed) walls made from stone recovered on the property or in the general vicinity. Many were later mortared to provide stability. In locations with high visibility from public ways, this same style of wall is most historically appropriate. Stone materials should match stones indigenous to Marblehead which are generally dark grey. Walls made of stones that are not indigenous (Pennsylvania fieldstone, colonial wallstone, antique granite wallstone, etc.) are not always appropriate in publicly visible walls. Veneered walls use thin strips of stone mortared to cinder block or concrete walls to create the appearance of actual drystone walls. In some cases, veneered walls may be acceptable if they match appropriate styles and materials.

Walls in Marblehead's Old & Historic Districts are typically constructed of rubble walls.